

The realities of this injustice are grim. According to the most recent Census data, fewer than 20 percent of women age 65 and over are receiving private pension income—and these women are receiving an average of only \$4,200 a year in such income, compared with \$7,800 for men. Minority women are in even more desperate straits—only 15 percent of African-American women and 8 percent of Hispanic women receive pension income.

As a result of these lower wages, longer lifespans and unfair pensions, nearly one in five older single women are living in poverty.

Almost twenty years ago, we modified federal pension laws to provide greater protections for women in their retirements. The Retirement Equity Act of 1984 required defined benefit pension plans to pay survivor benefits, unless the spouse waived this protection. The time has come to extend and expand these protections. In many cases, the amount a spouse receives as a survivor benefit is often far too little to provide adequate support. The existing protections do not cover 401(k) and other defined contribution plans—which are now the only retirement assistance for over half of the American who have private pensions.

Under the legislation we are introducing today, women will have greater retirement security. They will have greater say in the management of their husband's 401(k) funds. Widows will have more generous survivor benefits. Divorced women will have a greater ability to receive a share of their former husband's pension after a divorce. Our legislation offer long overdue improvements in the private system, so that retirement savings programs are more responsive to the realities of women's lives and careers. Congress must do all it can to strengthen women's retirement security and end the many inequities that affect women in our current pension laws. I urge my colleagues to support the Women's Pension Protection Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 225—COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BULGARIA

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 225

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Bulgaria on September 19, 1903;

Whereas the United States acknowledges the courage of the Bulgarian people in deciding to pursue a free, democratic, and independent Bulgaria and the steadfast perseverance of the Bulgarian people in building a society based on democratic values, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas the Bulgarian people, including Bulgarian civil and religious leaders, bravely protected 50,000 Bulgarian Jews from deportation and extermination during the Holocaust;

Whereas Bulgaria has supported stability in the Balkans by rendering support to Operation Allied Force and Operation Joint Guardian led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and by providing peacekeeping troops to the Stabilisation Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to the Kosovo Force in Kosovo;

Whereas Bulgaria was among the very first countries to denounce terrorism and pledge active support to the United States in the fight against terrorism following the events of September 11, 2001;

Whereas Bulgaria provided overflight and basing rights at the town of Burgas for Operation Enduring Freedom and Bulgaria deployed a military unit to Afghanistan as part of the International Security Assistance Force;

Whereas Bulgaria has stood firmly by the United States in the cause of advancing freedom worldwide during its tenure as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas Bulgaria met each request of the United States relating to overflight and basing rights as well as transit of United States and coalition forces, and deployed a 500-man infantry battalion as part of a stabilization force in Iraq;

Whereas in November 2003, Bulgaria was invited to join NATO and has shown determination in enacting the continued reforms necessary to be a productive, contributing member of the Alliance;

Whereas Bulgaria strongly supports the strengthening of trans-Atlantic relations and considers the relations to be a basis for NATO unity and cooperation in countering new threats to global security; and

Whereas in May 2003, the Senate gave its consent with 96 votes to 0 for the ratification of the accession protocols of Bulgaria and 6 other aspirant countries from Central and Eastern Europe to NATO, thereby welcoming their contribution to common trans-Atlantic security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 100 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria;

(2) commends the Republic of Bulgaria for developing increasingly friendly and broadly based relations with the United States, which are now the most favorable in the history of United States-Bulgaria relations;

(3) recognizes Bulgaria's continued contributions towards bringing peace, stability, and prosperity to the region of southeastern Europe, including the contributions of Bulgaria to regional security and democratic stability;

(4) salutes Bulgaria's willing cooperation and increasingly vital role as a valuable ally in the war against international terrorism;

(5) highlights the importance of Bulgaria's active participation in regional initiatives such as the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, the Southeast Europe Cooperative Initiative, and the Southeast Europe Cooperation Process, and the various projects of those initiatives, which are focused on fighting crime and corruption, increasing trade, improving the investment climate, and generally preparing Bulgaria and Southeast Europe as a whole for eventual membership in the European Union; and

(6) encourages opportunities for greater cooperation between the United States and Bulgaria in the political, military, economic, and cultural spheres.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 68—HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHNNY CASH

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. PRYOR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was ordered held at the desk.

S. CON. RES. 68

Whereas Johnny Cash was one of the most influential and recognized voices of American music throughout the world, whose influence spanned generations and musical genres;

Whereas Johnny Cash was born on February 26, 1932, in Kingsland, Arkansas, and moved with his family at the age of 3 to Dyess, Arkansas, where the family farmed 20 acres of cotton and other seasonal crops;

Whereas those early years in the life of Johnny Cash inspired songs such as "Look at Them Beans" and "Five Feet High and Rising";

Whereas Johnny Cash eventually released more than 70 albums of original material in his lifetime, beginning with his first recording in 1955 with the Tennessee Two;

Whereas Johnny Cash was a devoted husband to June Carter Cash, a father of 5 children, and a grandfather;

Whereas Johnny Cash received extensive recognition for his contributions to the musical heritage of the Nation, including membership in the Grand Old Opry; induction into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; and his receipt of numerous awards, including Kennedy Center Honors, 11 Grammy awards, and the 2001 National Medal of Arts;

Whereas Johnny Cash embodied the creativity, innovation, and social conscience that define American music;

Whereas Johnny Cash was a vocal champion of the downtrodden, the working man, and Native Americans; and

Whereas the Nation has lost one of its most prolific and influential musicians with the death of Johnny Cash on September 12, 2003, in Nashville, Tennessee: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors the life and accomplishments of Johnny Cash;

(2) recognizes and honors Johnny Cash for his invaluable contributions to the Nation, Tennessee, and our musical heritage; and

(3) extends its condolences to the Cash family on the death of a remarkable man.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I am introducing a concurrent resolution honoring Johnny Cash.

Johnny Cash died on Friday in Nashville. The man whose singing voice sounded like a big freight train coming, is gone. The concurrent resolution I introduce today is on behalf of my colleague, the majority leader, Senator BILL FRIST of Tennessee, the Senators from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN and Mr. PRYOR, and the distinguished Senator ROBERTS, who probably knows the words to "I Walk the Line," as do most of us all over the world.

Johnny Cash lived a little bit outside of Nashville. I was in his home one time and I asked him: Johnny, how many nights do you perform on the road?

He looked at me with some surprise. He said: Oh, about 300 a year.

Why do you do that, I asked him in amazement?

He looked back at me equally amazed. He said: That is what I do.

All weekend the radio stations have been playing the songs of the man who performed 300 times a year for all of us, the "man in black." Stores all over Nashville and all over the world were stocking up on Johnny Cash memorabilia this weekend.

So much has been said in newspapers and on TV that one wonders what else we Senators might say about Johnny Cash. I mean, what could I say better, for example, than what Steven Greenhouse wrote on Johnny on page 1 of the New York Times on Saturday:

Beginning in the mid-1950s, when he made his first record for the Sun label, Mr. Cash forged a lean, hard-bitten country-folk music that at its most powerful seemed to erase the lines between singing, storytelling and grueling life experience. Born in poverty in Arkansas at the height of the Depression, he was country music's foremost poet of the working poor. His stripped-down songs described the lives of coal miners and sharecroppers, convicts and cowboys, railroad workers and laborers.

"Foremost poet of the working poor." Mr. Greenhouse was not the only one who wrote beautifully about the foremost poet of the working poor. So did Louie Estrada and David Segal in the Washington Post. So did Craig Havighurst and several other writers in the Tennessean in Nashville, as well as John Sparks in the Memphis Commercial Appeal.

I have no doubt that in Wichita, Topeka, and important cities all over the country and world there were writers who were writing as best they could about the music and the sound of Johnny Cash.

Why do we wait until Johnny Cash dies to write of his poetry? John R. Cash is not the only such poet who ever lived in Nashville, TN. Bob Dylan, Johnny's friend, once said that Hank Williams was America's greatest poet. At last count, there are several thousand songwriters living in Nashville struggling to write poetry, some of which will be known and remembered everywhere in the world one day.

Alice Randall, a Nashville songwriter, a writer of songs and books, once observed that it is odd that there is so little serious literary criticism of the poetry of Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, and other country music songwriters. The outpouring of articles that accompanied Johnny's death this weekend suggest that most of the serious criticism of the poetry found in country music is done by pop music critics in our major newspapers.

But why is there not a department or a chair or at least a conference occasionally dedicated to criticism of the poetry or at least the literature of country music? Literary criticism is a fundamental part of the departments of English in universities all across America. Some of the most famous of these were among the "Fugitives" who met during the 1920s at Vanderbilt University. Cleanth Brooks, Robert Penn Warren, Allen Tate, Donald Davidson,

and Andrew Lytle were some of those literary critics who began their careers then.

If Vanderbilt University, my alma mater, is such a center of literary criticism, then why has Vanderbilt University not done more about the literature that is country music? Or why does Belmont University in Nashville or the University of Tennessee or the University of Memphis not do it?

These Nashville and Memphis songwriters are certainly among the most famous poets in the world. But why do we wait for the New York Times and Bob Dylan to tell us that Johnny Cash and Hank Williams are also among the best poets when Vanderbilt University, among others, lives right there among them?

There are hundreds of good English professors in dozens of northeastern universities writing thousands of pages of criticism about average poets, while our Tennessee universities are doing almost nothing to write about poets who others say are among the best in the world. We have had a habit in Tennessee of not being willing to look right in front of our own noses to celebrate what is special about us. We sometimes worry about producing only average Chopin when right down the block lives the best harmonica player in the world.

I am all for Chopin, Beethoven, Mozart, and Bach. I have played their music on the piano with symphonies all across Tennessee, but I have also performed with those symphonies some of the most beautiful of the unique American music we call country music.

The death of our friend Johnny Cash, the poet of the working poor, is a good time for our Tennessee universities to consider whether they might want to celebrate our excellence by encouraging literary criticism of some of the best known poets in the world: Our songwriters. Our universities might discover what others have suggested, that some of our songwriters are also among the best in the world.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Madam President, I rise to join Senators ALEXANDER, FRIST, and PRYOR to introduce a resolution in honor of a great American, and one of our greatest Arkansans—Johnny Cash, who passed away on Friday, September 12, at the age of 71.

John R. Cash was born in Kingsland, AR on February 26, 1932. When he was just 3 years old, his father moved the family to Dyess Colony, a New Deal program that set up new farming communities on uncleared land near the Mississippi River. The family had 20 acres upon which they farmed cotton and other seasonal crops and from the beginning, John was taught to work for a living. It was this time spent farming and living in Northeast Arkansas, that inspired songs such as "Look at Them Beans" and "Five Feet High and Rising." At the age of six, he was hauling water for a road crew. At twelve he was chopping cotton. When he reached high school he was singing on the radio in

Blytheville. Still, John didn't pick up a guitar until he was stationed in West Germany as a soldier in the Army. The instrument was so cheap, he said, that "it didn't even have a brand name."

When he returned from Germany, John moved to Memphis, determined to make it in the music industry. He sold appliances door-to-door and went to broadcasting school on the GI bill, playing music whenever he could. Finally, he managed to get an audition before Sam Phillips, the owner of the legendary Sun Records studio. The first time Phillips heard Cash sing, he turned him down, saying that he sounded "too country." John returned with a more rockabilly sound and Phillips began to send his group out with another artist on the Sun Records label, Elvis Presley. Phillips also began to refer to John as Johnny, a name Cash disliked because he thought it made him sound too young. Johnny would go on to record some of his most cherished songs for the label, including such classics as "Cry, Cry, Cry" and "I Walk the Line".

Over the next 5 decades, Johnny Cash recorded over 400 albums, with 48 hits on the Billboard Hot 100 and over 130 hits on the Billboard country music charts. In the process, the boy from Dyess Colony managed to sell over 50 million records. He is part of a distinguished group of musicians from Arkansas including: Conway Twitty, Sonny Boy Williamson, Glen Campbell, and Charlie Rich. Even though Johnny Cash and these other distinguished artists found fame outside of Arkansas, the experience of growing up in Arkansas gave them a unique perspective on the feelings of the common man and woman, working hard to just get by, a perspective which came through in their music.

The number of artists he has influenced is immeasurable. He has been inducted into the Country & Western Hall of Fame, the Nashville Songwriter's Hall of Fame, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. He received 11 Grammy Awards including the Lifetime Achievement Award, and has been honored by both the Kennedy Center for his contribution to American Culture and the United Nations, receiving the Humanitarian Award. The last two awards illustrate how Johnny Cash became so much more than a musician.

His songs shined a light on aspects of American culture that are integral to our Nation's history but too often overlooked. He never forgot where he came from and the people he met along the way. He told stories about people who worked hard just to survive, people so poor they couldn't afford a car so they snuck out the parts to build one from the plant where they worked, "One Piece At A Time". And he told it all with a voice that once was described as "the perfect voice for a man of his spirit. It's unmistakable. It doesn't sound like anybody else. And it sounds like the real thing, which is what he is."

I ask that all my colleagues in the Senate join me in honoring a true

American original, a prodigiously talented musician, with a conscience that matched those gifts. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 1654. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2691, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1655. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. REED, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2754, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

SA 1656. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2754, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1657. Mr. KOHL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2754, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1658. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2754, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1654. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2691, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act, previously or hereafter enacted, may be used to permit the use of the National Mall for a special event, unless the permit expressly prohibits the erection, placement, or use of structures and signs bearing commercial advertising or sponsor recognition in any form. For purposes of this section, the term "special event" shall have the meaning given to it by section 7.96(g)(1)(ii) of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations; and the term "structure" shall have the meaning given to it by section 7.96(g)(5)(x)(A)(4) of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations. This section shall not apply to hand-held signs or to the Festival of American Folklife.

SA 1655. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. REED, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2754, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; as follows:

After section 503, insert the following:

SEC. 504. (a) REDUCTION IN AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.—The amount appropriated by title III of this Act under the heading "ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES" under the heading "NATIONAL NU-

CLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION" under the heading "WEAPONS ACTIVITIES" is hereby reduced by \$21,000,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated so that—

(1) no funds shall be available for the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator; and

(2) no funds shall be available for Advanced Weapons Concepts.

(b) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN MODIFICATION OF READINESS POSTURE OF NEVADA TEST SITE.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for the Department of Energy may be obligated or expended for the purpose of modifying the readiness posture of the Nevada Test Site, Nevada, for the resumption by the United States of underground nuclear weapons tests from the current readiness of posture of 24 months to 36 months to a new readiness posture of 18 months or any other readiness posture of less than 24 months.

(c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR SITE SELECTION OF MODERN PIT FACILITY.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for the Department of Energy may be obligated or expended for the purpose of site selection of the Modern Pit Facility.

(d) REDUCTION OF PUBLIC DEBT.—Of the amount appropriated by this Act, \$21,000,000 shall not be obligated or expended, but shall be utilized instead solely for purposes of the reduction of the public debt.

SA 1656. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2754, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 31, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 117. Section 219(f) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580; 106 Stat. 4835), as amended by section 502(b) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-53; 113 Stat. 335) and section 108(d) of title I of division B of the Miscellaneous Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted by Public law 106-554; 114 Stat. 2763A-220), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(71) CORONADO, CALIFORNIA.—\$10,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure, Coronado, California."

SA 1657. Mr. KOHL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2754, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 42, line 20, after "expended" insert the following: " , of which \$5,000,000 shall be available to pay 100 percent of the costs of a research and development project to demonstrate advanced spent nuclear fuel storage and management technologies, to be carried out through a cooperative agreement between the Secretary of Energy and the Dairyland Power Cooperative at the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor in the State of Wisconsin".

SA 1658. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2754, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 42, line 20, strike the period at the end and insert " , of which \$5,000,000 shall be available for the Navajo electrification demonstration program under section 602 of Public Law 106-511 (114 Stat. 2376)."

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to announce that there will be a joint meeting of the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Committee on the Judiciary at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, September 16, 2003, in SR-325, Russell Senate Office Building, to conduct a joint hearing on Ensuring the Continuity of the United States Government: The Presidency.

For further information concerning this meeting, please contact Susan Wells at 202-224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS' SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, THE BUDGET, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security be authorized to meet on Monday, September 15, at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing titled, "Safeguarding America's Retirement Security: An Examination of Defined Benefit Pension Plans and the Pension Benefits Guaranty Corporation."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

On Wednesday, September 10, 2003, the Senate passed H.R. 2660, as follows:

H.R. 2660

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2660) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes," do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real